



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

OCT 30 2002

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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: SRF-5J

Mr. Johnny W. Reising
United States Department of Energy
Fernald Area Office
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

4580

Subject: EPA Concurrence with November 1 Extension

Dear Mr. Reising:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of the United States Department of Energy's (DOE) October 29, 2002, letter requesting an extension for the regulatory milestone for Phase I operation of the Radon Control System, which is part of the Accelerated Waste Retrieval (AWR) Project of the Silos 1 and 2 Remediation. In this letter, DOE requests and extension of the milestone from the current November 1, 2002 to December 16, 2002.

DOE has kept EPA regularly informed of the RCS project progress during our weekly teleconferences, project management meetings and site visits. It is EPA's observation that DOE has been working diligently to design the RCS, complete its construction, and perform tests with the goal of meeting the November 1, 2002 startup milestone. While DOE may currently have the capability and expertise to run the RCS safely, DOE should feel comfortable before proceeding with RCS operation. The safe operation of the various Silos remediation projects is of key importance to stakeholders and EPA, where RCS operation will be critical to support the Accelerated Waste Retrieval and Silos 1 & 2 Treatment Projects. Consistent with that, EPA understands the basis of the extension request and DOE's need for additional time for completion of RCS programmatic requirements to ensure the safe operation of the RCS.

EPA agrees that there is good cause for an extension and therefore concurs with the extension request. EPA looks forward to DOE meeting the milestone date of December 16, 2002 for startup of Phase I operation of the RCS. This date is an enforceable milestone under the 1991 Amended Consent Agreement. Please contact me at (312) 886-4591 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Gene Jablonowski
Project Manager
Federal Facilities Section
Superfund Division

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO
Sally Robison, U.S. DOE-HDQ
Jamie Jameson, Fluor Fernald
Terry Hagen, Fluor Fernald
Tim Poff, Fluor Fernald